

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/874,982

Examiner

Jinsong Hu

Applicant(s)

HOMMA ET AL.

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview with attorney on 9/16/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

ZARNI MAUNG

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears bellow. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as proved by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Katherine P. Barecchia (Reg. No. 50,607) on September 16, 2005.

In the claims:

Please amend claims 8, 13, 17 and 18 as following:

Claim 8: A method, in which an information demander obtains article information from an information provider via a mediate apparatus, comprising the steps of:

inputting a desire for an article to a portable terminal as demand information potentially including a keyword by the information demander; and

receiving information from said information provider via the mediate apparatus, the information being provided from the information provider in response to said demand information,

wherein the mediate apparatus includes a deliver, section that delivers said demand information to said information provider and a transmission section that

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transmits information from said information provider in response to said demand information.

Claim 13: A computer-readable recording medium used by an. information demander when obtaining article information from an information provider via a mediate apparatus, wherein the computer-readable recording medium is recorded with an article information transmission/reception program for executing:

a step of inputting a desire for an article to a portable terminal as demand information potentially including a keyword by an information demander;

a step of delivering said demand information to said information provider; and

a step of receiving provided information from the information provider, the provided information being provided from said information provider via the mediate apparatus in response to said demand information,

wherein the mediate a apparatus includes a deliver section that delivers said demand information to said information provider and a transmission section that transmits information from said information provider in response to said demand information.

Claim 17: A computer program stored on a computer readable medium for providing article information; causing a computer to execute the steps of:

registering each information provider and a keyword previously so as to allow the information and the keyword to correspond to each other;

receiving demand information;

urging an information demander to input a desire for an article to a portable terminal as demand information;

retrieving said keyword from said demand information;

determining the information provider as a delivery destination of said demand information, the information provider being registered while corresponding to said keyword when said keyword is retrieved;

delivering said demand information to said information provider;

receiving information provided from said information provider and corresponding to said demand information; and

transmitting the provided information to said information demander, the provided information being provided from said information provider in response to said demand information.

Claim 18: An article information transmission/reception program stored on a computer readable medium and used by an information demander when obtaining article information from an information provider via a mediate apparatus, causing a computer to execute the steps of:

inputting a desire for an article to a portable terminal as demand information potentially including a keyword by the information demander;

delivering said demand information to said information provider; and

receiving provided information from the information provider, the provided information being provided from said information provider via said mediate apparatus in response to said demand information,

wherein the mediate apparatus includes a delivery section that delivers said demand information to said information provider and a transmission section that transmits information from said information provider in response to said demand information.

Reasons for allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's claimed invention distinguished over the prior art for the following reasons. The claims are allowable over the prior art of record because none of the references, either alone or in combination, discloses or renders obvious the method for obtaining article information from an information provider via a mediate apparatus comprises the steps of inputting a desire for an article to a portable terminal as demand information potentially including a keyword by the information demander; and

receiving information from said information provider via the mediate apparatus, the information being provided from the information provider in response to said demand information,

wherein the mediate apparatus includes a deliver, section that delivers said demand information to said information provider and a transmission section that

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transmits information from said information provider in response to said demand information.

Conclusion

4. Any comments considering necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinsong Hu whose telephone number is (571) 272-3965. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jinsong Hu

September 16, 2005


ZARNI MAUNG
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER